

**Coastal Impact Assistance Program (CIAP)
Project Nomination
Executive Summary
(May 22, 2006)**

Project Title:

Restoration of the Chenier Plain: *Addressing the Impacts of Man Made Channels*

Entity/Individual nominating the project:

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Contact Information (Name, Address, Telephone, Email):

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Total CIAP Funds Requested:

\$96,326,170

Parish CIAP Funds Proposed:

\$0.00 dollars

State CIAP Funds Requested:

\$96,326,170

Infrastructure Funds Proposed:

\$0.00 dollars

Description and Location of Project:

This proposal refers to the Chenier Plain portion of Coast 2050 Region 3 mapping units Rainey Marsh, Big Woods, and Vermilion Bay Marsh and all of Region 4.

Project Type (from list of authorized CIAP fund uses):

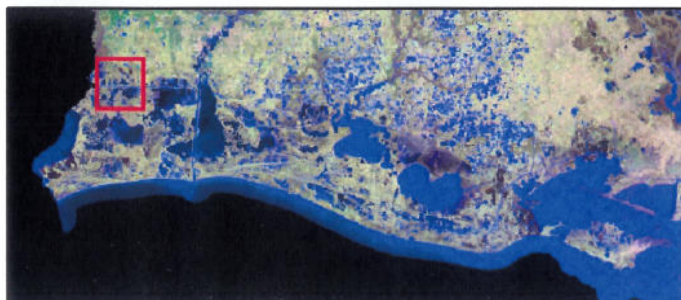
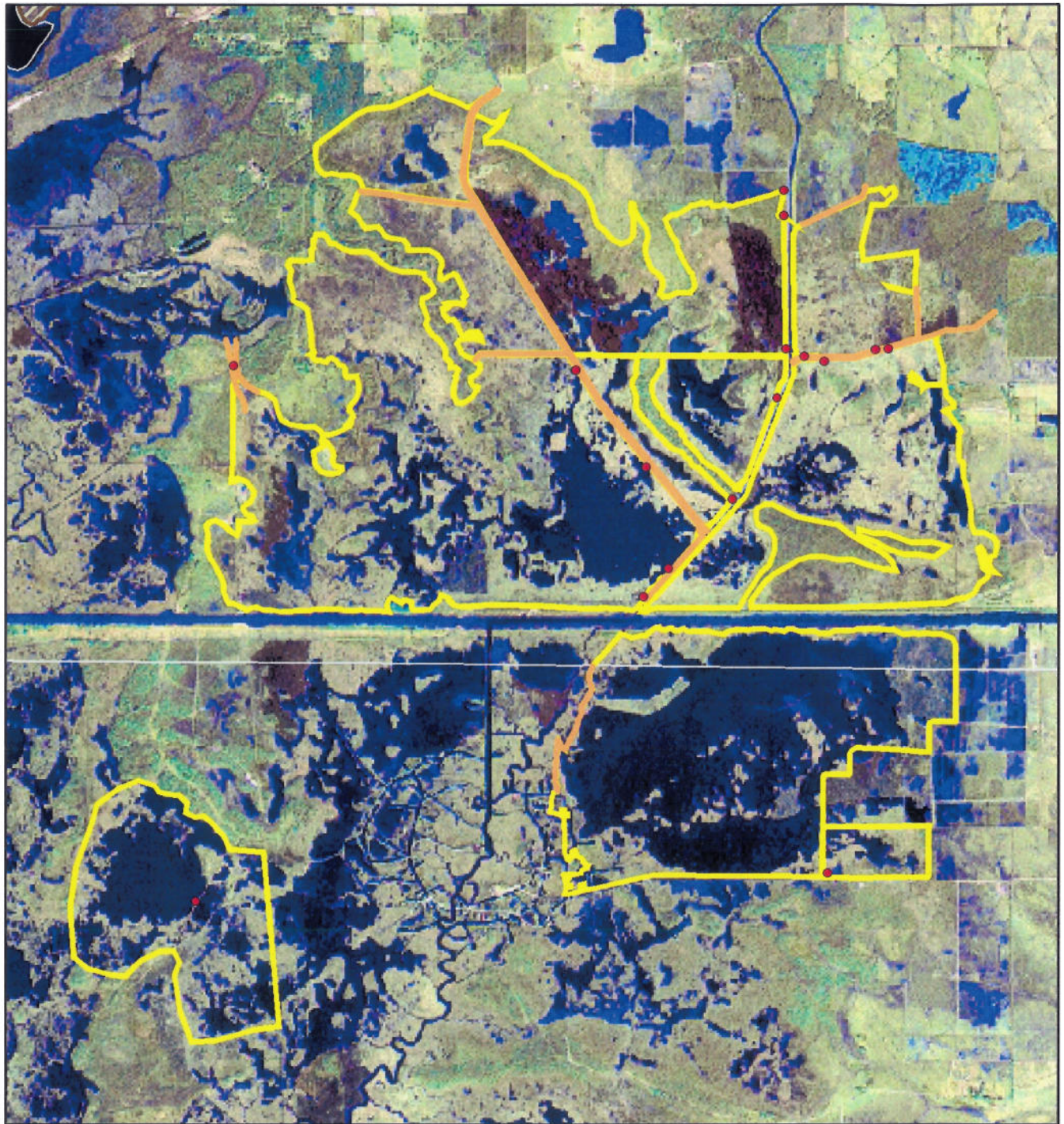
The Restoration of the Chenier Plain (*Addressing the Impacts of Manmade Channels*) consists of conservation, restoration, and protection of SW Louisiana coastal wetlands.

Project Justification:

As stated in Coast 2050 under historic coastal land loss, major navigation/ship channels and exploration canals altered the hydrology and are responsible for most of the of the marsh losses in both Region 3 and 4. The majority of the coastal acres in Region 3 and 4 are within management units that were established due to the impacts of man made channels, and it is clear that restoration and maintenance of those sites is critical to prevent future dramatic additional loss of interior marsh. The need for long term sustainability of the Chenier Plain has been well identified in the Teche/Vermilion Cooperative River Basin Study by calling for *repairing the existing systems of levees, where needed, and replacing dysfunctional water control structures with properly sized new ones* and for Region 4 under Local and Common Strategies, *hydrologic restoration is a local strategy recommended for nearly all of the Region 4 mapping units*. This proposal includes the restoration features to achieve those goals. It has been well identified that in the Chenier Plain there are limited opportunities to use sediment-laden water to increase marsh elevation. The restoration features in this proposal will ensure that the Chenier Plain maintains the features to sustain vertical accumulation through organic production and retention.

Project cost share (Types and amounts of non-CIAP funds proposed, if any):

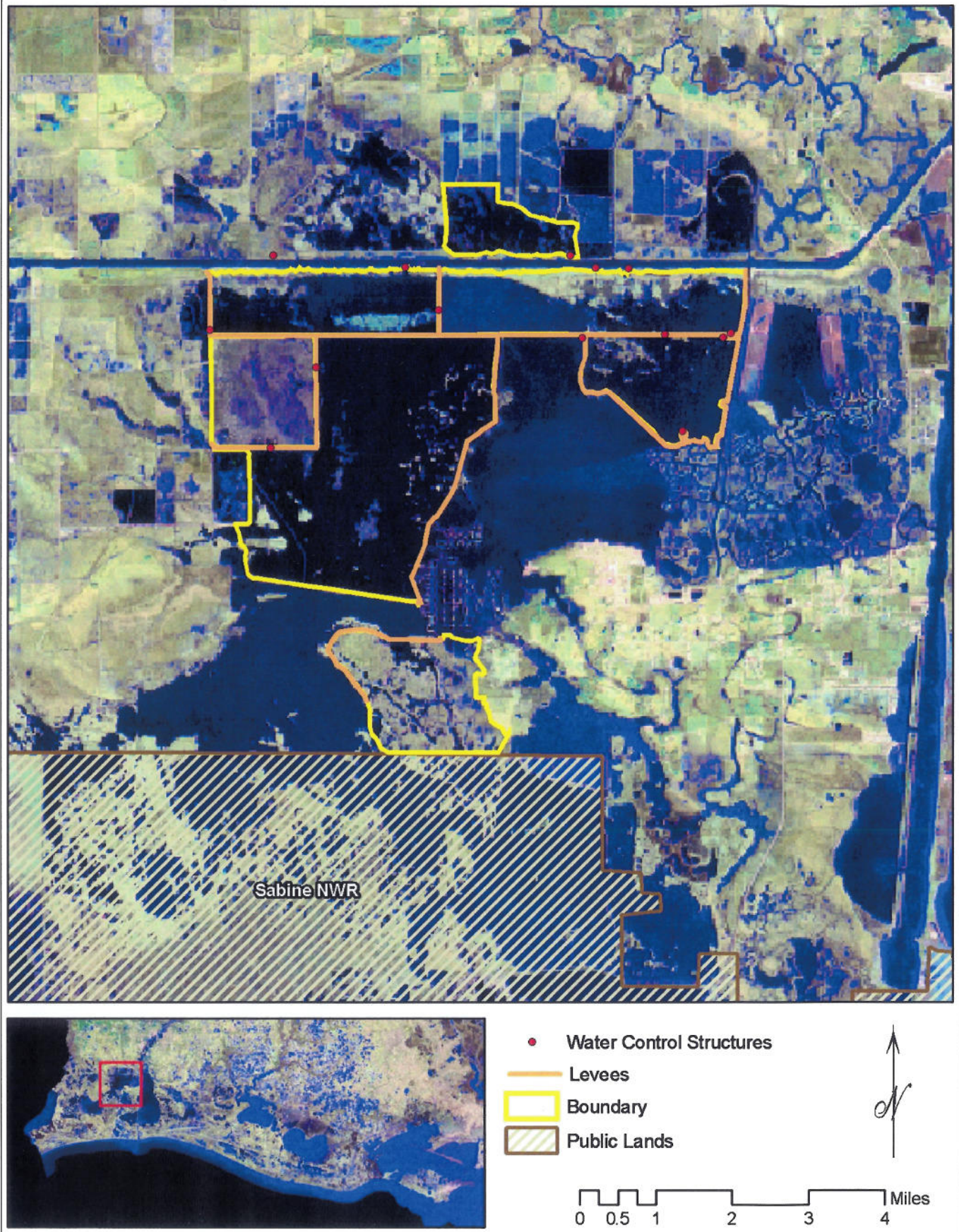
Ducks Unlimited is positioned to compete for additional sources of restoration dollars including the North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant process that requires sources of non-Federal match. Those funds will be leveraged with other Ducks Unlimited and conservation partner funds to secure future North American Wetlands Conservation Act grants to enable the restoration of additional coastal marsh in Louisiana.

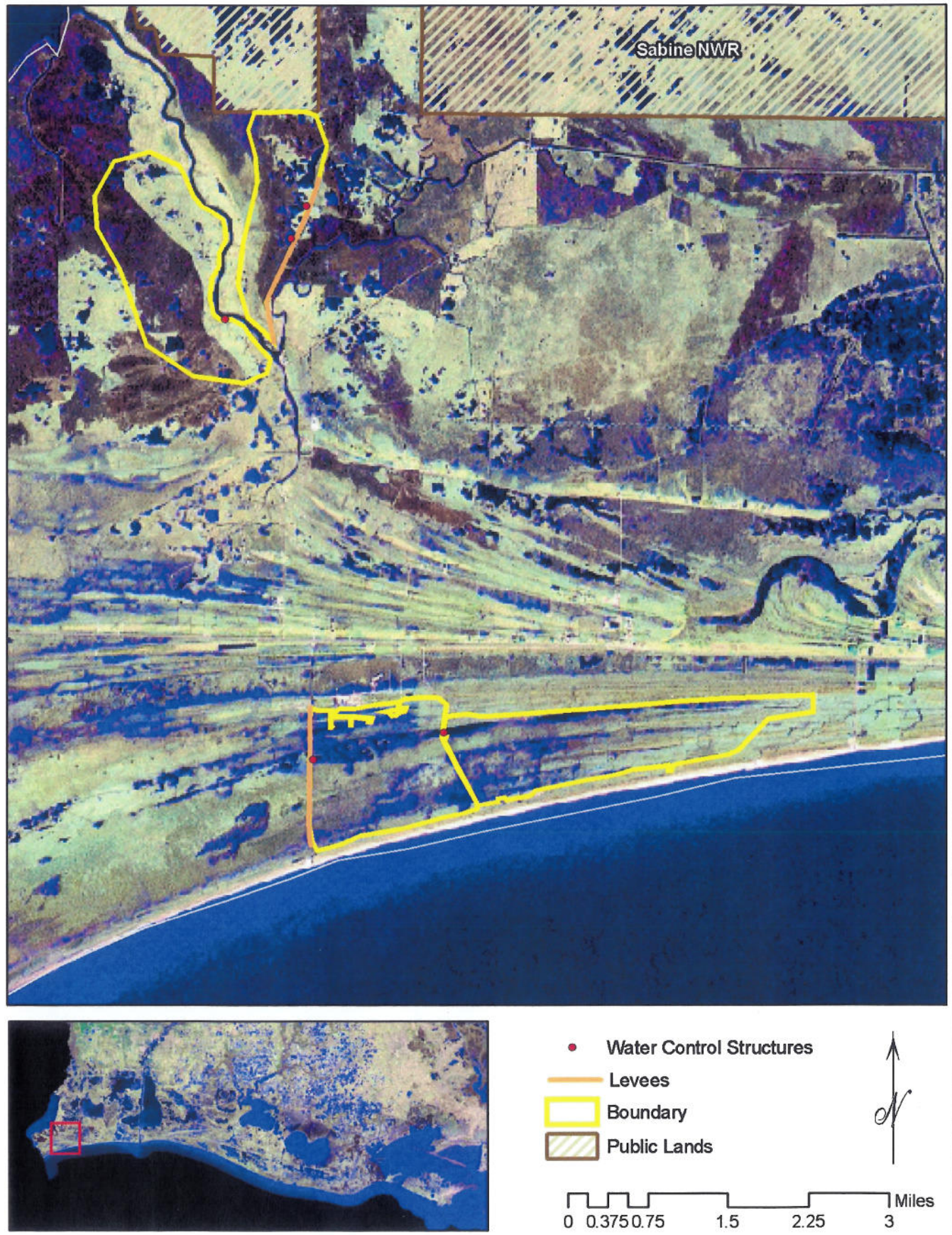


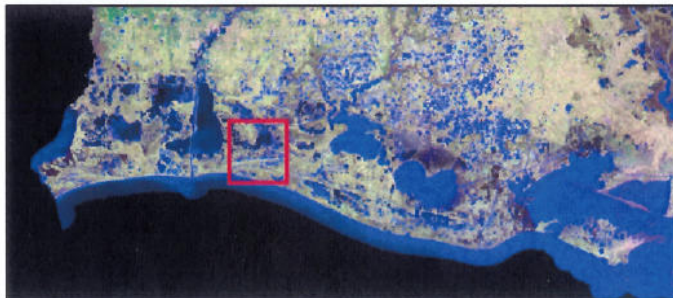
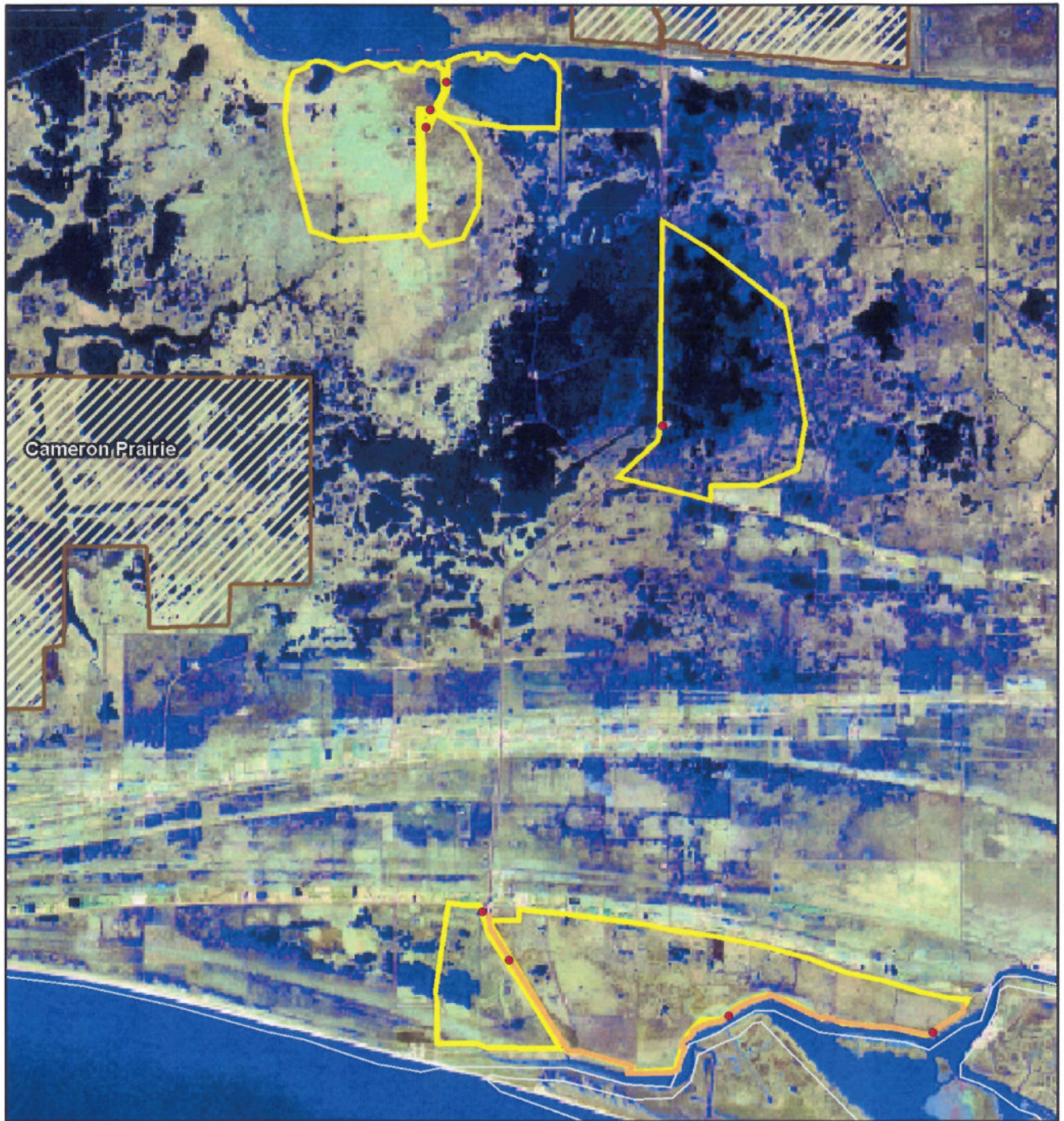
- Water Control Structures
- Levees
- Boundary
- ▨ Public Lands



0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles







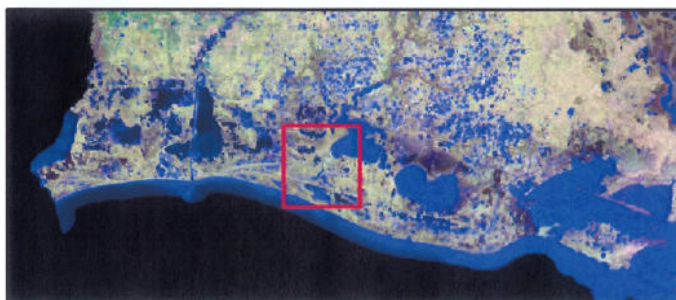
- Water Control Structures
- Levees
- Boundary
- ▨ Public Lands



0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles

Restoration of the Chenier Plain

CM-4



- Water Control Structures
- Levees
- Boundary
- ▨ Public Lands

0 0.5 1 2 3 4 Miles



Restoration of the Chenier Plain

VM-1



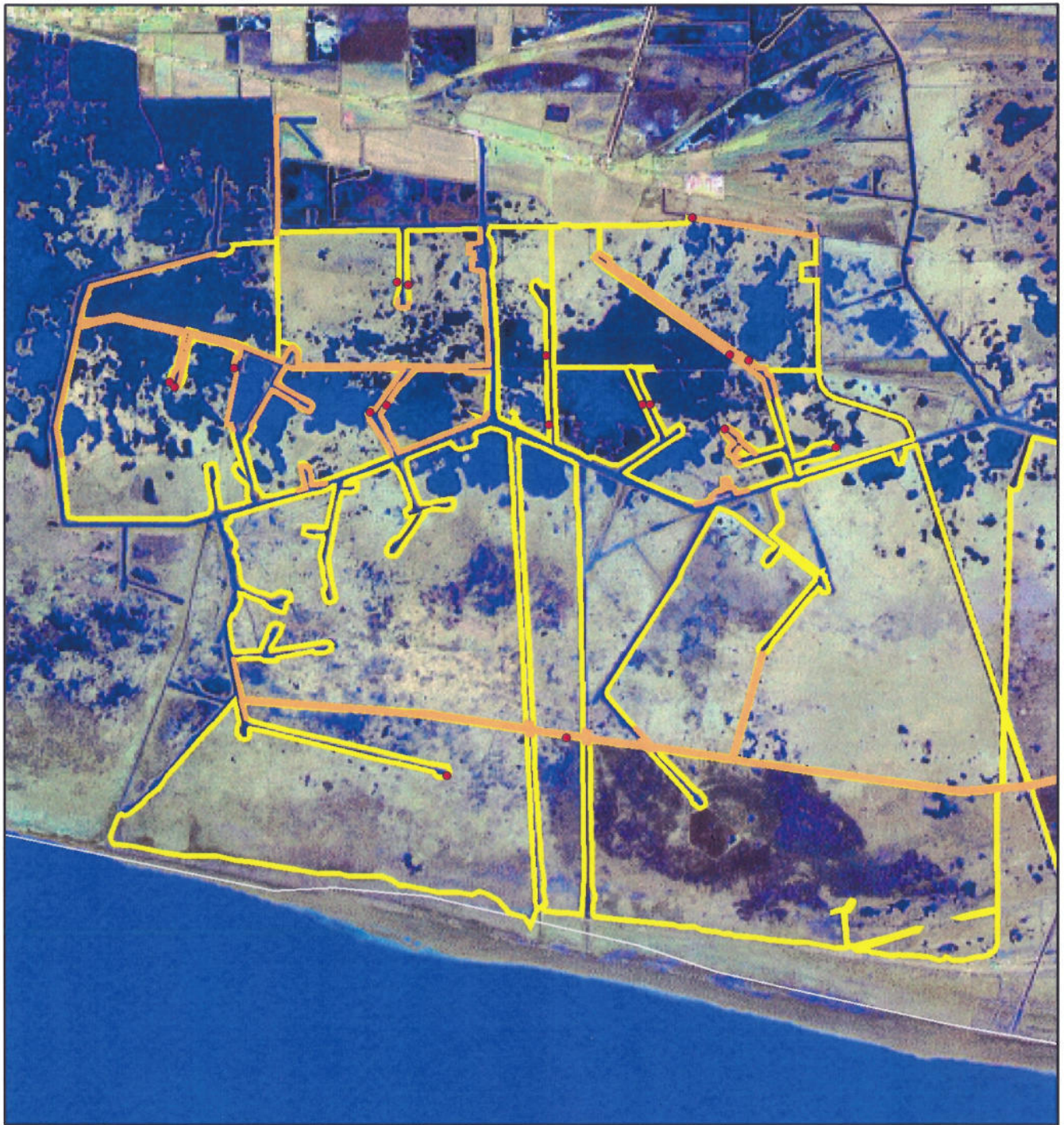
- Water Control Structures
- Levees
- Boundary
- ▨ Public Lands

0 0.3 0.6 1.2 1.8 2.4 Miles



Restoration of the Chenier Plain

VM-2



- Water Control Structures
- Levees
- Boundary
- ▨ Public Lands



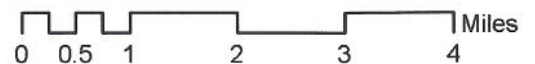
0 0.375 0.75 1.5 2.25 3 Miles

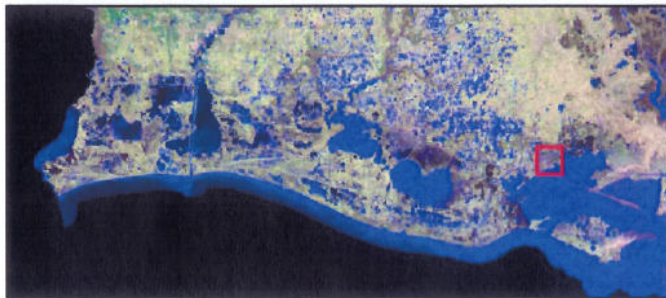
Restoration of the Chenier Plain

VM-3



- Water Control Structures
- Levees
- Boundary
- ▨ Public Lands





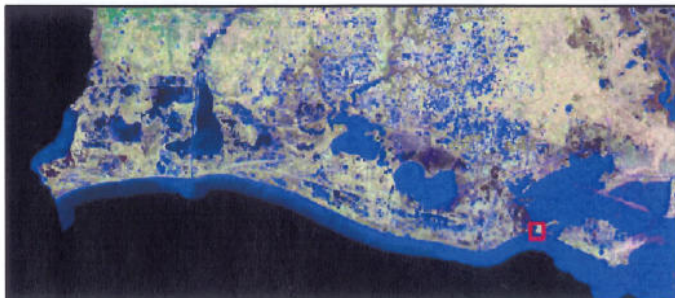
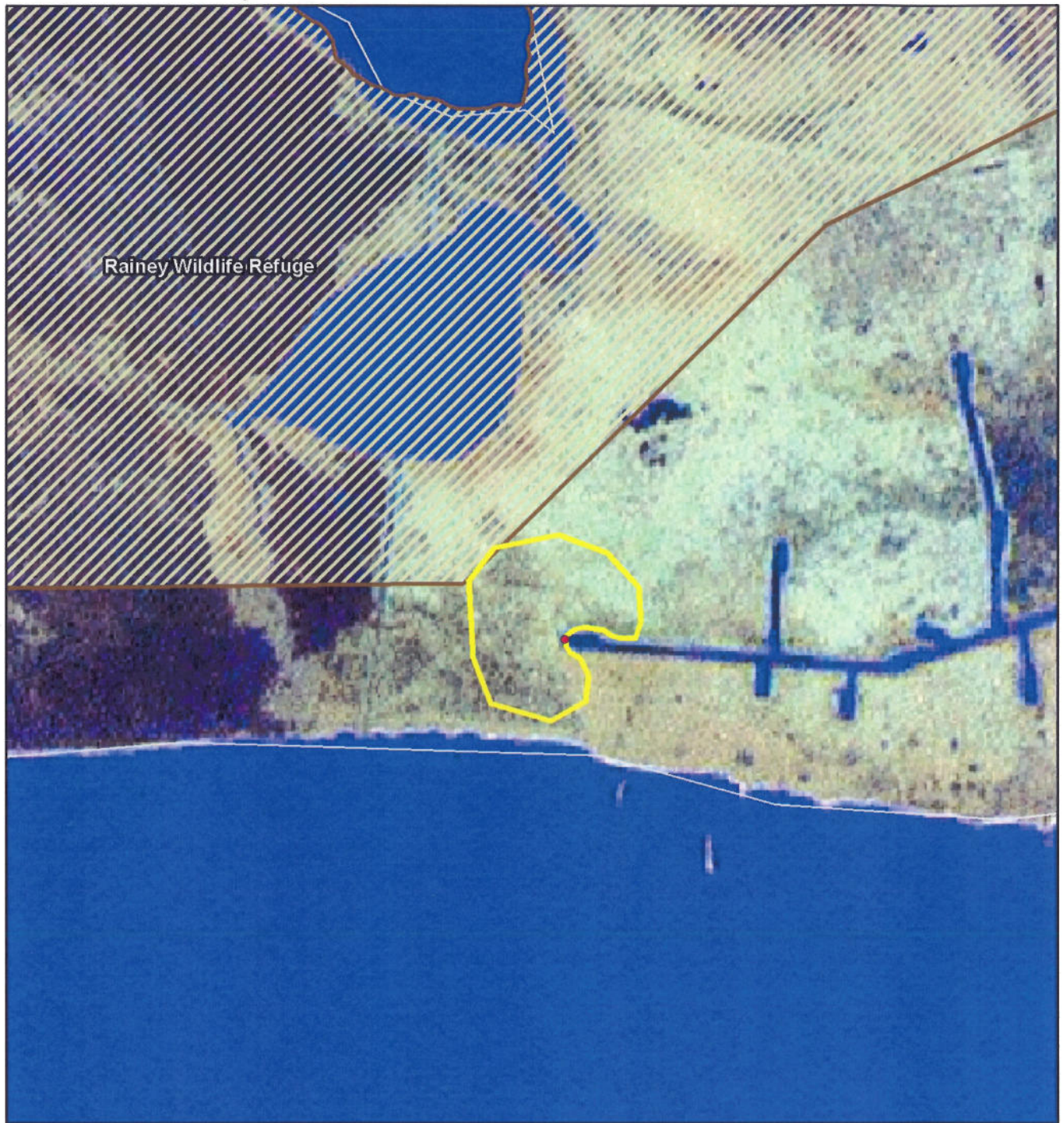
- Water Control Structures
- Levees
- Boundary
- ▨ Public Lands



0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

Restoration of the Chenier Plain

VM-5



- Water Control Structures
- Levees
- Boundary
- ▨ Public Lands



0 0.125 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles